

PRESS RELEASE

Congressman John Conyers, Jr.

Fourteenth District, Michigan
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
Dean, Congressional Black Caucus

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**Conyers Denounces Decision to Cut Fans, Workers and Cities Out of Baseball
Plans to Introduce Antitrust Legislation To Rein in Anti-Competitive Actions**

Rep. John Conyers, Jr, Ranking Member on the House Judiciary Committee, issued the following statement in connection with the announcement by Major League Baseball that it would reduce the number of teams from 30 to 28 before next season:

“Any time 30 of the wealthiest and most influential individuals get together behind closed doors and agree to reduce output, that cannot be a good thing for anyone but the monopolists. I will do everything in my power to see that this ill considered decision does not stand, including introducing legislation to insure that the full weight of the antitrust laws applies to this anti-competitive decision.

“This is like a game of musical chairs – two teams will be left standing and their fans will be left out in the cold. This unprecedented decision is bad for the fans, bad for the players on the field and the workers and businesses at and around the stadium, bad for the minor league teams that will also be cut loose, and bad for the cities that will be forced into new and more costly bidding wars to avoid being dumped by baseball.”

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